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REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action dated April 5, 2005. Applicant has amended the claims to clarify key features of the invention and/or more clearly recite several of the novel features recited by the claims. No new matter has been added, and the amendments place the claims in better condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments to the claims. The discussion/arguments provided below reference the claims in their amended form.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

At paragraph 4 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Mora, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,161,113) in view of *Ertemalp* (U.S. Patent No. 5,745,110). The combination of *Mora* and *Ertemalp* does not render Applicant's invention unpatentable because that combination does not suggest to one skilled in the art the subject matter of Applicant's invention, which is recited within the various claims.

Applicant's claims provide several key features (among others) that are not suggested by either reference, neither individually nor in combination with each other. Among these features are the following:

(1) "adding a summary information field to each document ... including information about a **percentage completion** of a particular task/subtask represented by the particular document **within the overall project to be completed**" (Claim 1);

(2) "assigning to each task and subtask within the project an individual point total representing a **current completion point total** for the specific task and/or subtask, where the completion point total is **an in-progress value**, ranging from a minimum value to a maximum value that may be assigned to indicate final completion of the task and subtask **to track the progress of the specific task and subtask**" (Claim 4); and

(3) "automatically determining an overall point total for the project and a completed point total for all tasks and subtasks affiliated with said project; and dynamically **calculating a current completion percentage of each of said tasks** utilizing a sum of the completed point total for subtasks associated with the particular task, **and dynamically calculating a current completion percentage of said project** utilizing said overall point total for the project and a sum of said completed point total for each task within the project" (Claim 4) (emphases added).

Examiner relies primarily on *Mora*, which provides a "computer-aided project notebook" having documents that are categorized into views, "such as a methodology view" in which

"documents have status fields, into which a user may enter status data" (Abstract). "Other features of the notebook are document interconnectivity, shared fields, trace maps, and document access especially designed for project development."

The specific sections of *Mora* referenced by Examiner provide:

(1) descriptions of the types of functions associated with or information provided by specific "Technical Database Documents", which are identified in a numerical hierarchy, each main number associated with a particular document (or document type) e.g., SRS, SRR, and PDR (*see* col. 16-17 generally, and col. 17, lines 16-20, 39-44, 60-64); and

(2) "providing programming for said collaborative software, ... to automatically update said status field in response to said document status data" (col. 59, lines 21-24).

Nowhere within these sections is there any teaching or suggestion of any of the above specific highlighted features within Applicant's claim elements. That is, nothing from the sections above would suggest to one skilled in the art: (1) encoding completion point totals within task/subtask documents; and (2) calculating/determining the percent completion for both individual tasks and the overall project using the sum of the completion point totals against the overall points allocated to the project.

Notably, Examiner recognizes the limitation with respect to the second element within *Mora* by correctly stating that *Mora* does not disclose summary "information about a percentage completion ...." *Mora* also does not disclose that the percentage completion is "within the overall project to be completed," as now recited by the claims. Examiner relies on *Ertemalp* to support the rejection of this feature. However, *Ertemalp* and specifically the referenced figures 4, 10, and 11 do not suggest the above listed features of Applicant's claims.

Entemalp generally provides a "[m]ethod and apparatus for quickly arranging and displaying task schedule information in a calendar view format using internal caches and configurable, moveable task bars." (Abstract). A user is able to "change and configure task schedule information displayed in a task bar, as well as change task bar display attributes." "When a task bar is configured or removed by a user, the task bar as well as remaining task bars

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are automatically re-scaled to <u>fit within the vertical space</u> of the daybox." (Abstract). Figures 4, of *Entemalp* provide an exemplary cache within which is illustrated the list of tasks, whether or not they are visible, and their respective <u>start times</u> and <u>end times</u> –in table format. Figures 10 and 11 provide a calendar view of the tasks with bars indicating when the specific tasks are scheduled; (emphases added).

There is absolutely nothing in any of these figures or within the descriptions thereof (*see*, for example, col. 5, lines 49-col. 7, lines 12; col. 9, lines 26-33). Also *see* col. 10, lines 19-21, which states, "[t]he task bar …is an example of a task bar whose font size was increased to draw attention to the task." Applicant's invention is NOT a scheduler and thus Examiner's analysis suggest that Examiner has either mis-interpreted what is being taught by Applicant's claimed invention or has mischaracterized what is being taught by *Entemalp*. One skilled in the art would not find that description of assigning a time frame for completion of a task and providing a table (cache) that displays the progress of each task in a chart format to be remotely suggestive of calculating the percent completion of a project using completion point totals assigned to each document which represents a specific task/sub-task within the overall project.
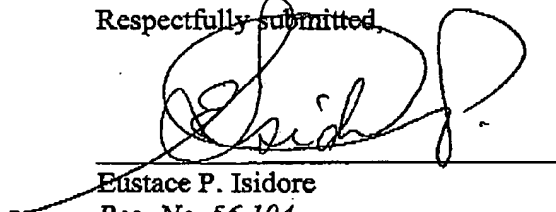
Given the above reasons, it is clear that the combination of references does not suggest several key features of Applicant's invention. One skilled in the art would not find Applicant's invention unpatentable over the combination of references, and Applicant's claims are therefore allowable over the combination.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the claims to clarify features within specific claims and more clearly recite novel features of the invention. Applicant has also provided arguments, which clearly rebut and overcome the rejections. Both the amendments and the supporting arguments overcome the §103 rejections, and Applicant, therefore respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicant also requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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